

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Overview of main development results in Great Lakes in 2014

Summary Multi Annual Strategic Plan (MASP)

Aim: to contribute to stability in the region by improving human security and inclusive growth, through transboundary interventions that either cannot be provided bilaterally or take place in eastern DRC and have an impact on regional stability. Focus on: decreasing violence and enhanced service delivery and inclusive processes by improving state-society relations, prevention of sexual and gender-based violence through behaviour change and more equitable relations, lower population growth through education and family planning, employment creation and greater equality through socioeconomic development and regional trade facilitation and prevention of resource-based conflicts through equitable access and joint and participatory management.

Priority themes

- Security and rule of law
- Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)
- Food security
- Water

Embassy contribution to changes at regional level

The Netherlands supports regional collaboration, especially in the field of natural resources. As a result, in 2014 negotiations on the Virunga Treaty (DRC, Rwanda, Uganda) and on the Lake Kivu MoU (DRC, Rwanda) were resumed and an agreement on revenue sharing (Virunga) was signed.

Through Dutch support, several steps were taken towards more sustainable management of resources, such as reduction of pressure on Virunga Park and safe exploitation in Lake Kivu. Dialogue was held with fishermen and authorities on sustainable management of Lake Kivu, Albert and Rweru (incl. oil).

The Stabilisation Support Strategy in eastern DRC takes dialogue as a starting point, for which the Netherlands supported four needs assessments. In addition, it supported 155 communal dialogues, for example on security and access to resources.

An IOM pilot in the Nyiragongo and Rutshuru territories facilitated the peaceful return of displaced people after the defeat of M23. Other results included the improvement of state-society relations at local level through police training, inclusive planning and events to build mutual trust.

Through the IOM pilot facilitating return after the defeat of M23, 1,753 vulnerable returning households had an opportunity to rebuild their lives. The Netherlands also supported the provision of safe drinking water for 7,262 people living around Virunga Park.

Through Dutch support, 311,000 farmers (36.4% women) in Burundi, DRC and Rwanda are applying improved agricultural techniques. These and other interventions resulted in 2014 in a 35% increase in turnover in supported value chains.

Clarifications of results achieved

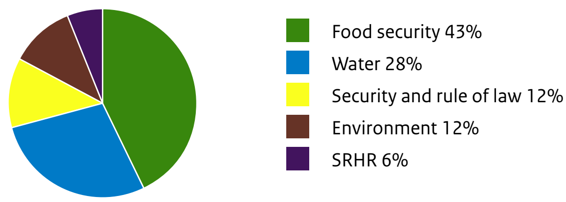
We clearly see improved regional collaboration, especially on natural resources; this is a complex and long-term process. Dutch projects add value by supporting this process, but regularly face delays as planning is difficult. We also need to realize that results in locally based projects do not automatically translate into high scores at regional outcome level, which is often affected by much broader developments. Meanwhile, in 2014 the MONUSCO Stabilisation Unit focused on needs assessments and developing Provincial Strategies with Congolese authorities. Project development will follow in 2015. A programme connecting the electricity networks of Rwanda and the DRC faced delays in procurement. The planned disbursement of EUR 10 million was not made.

Implications for planning

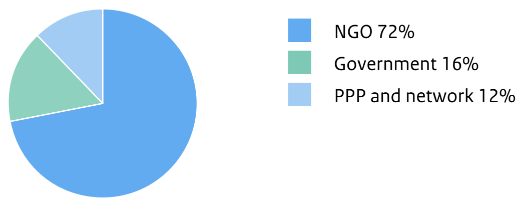
The programme has added value for regional collaboration; it requires flexibility and long-term view. Support to Virunga will be renewed.
In 2015 the electricity programme is expected to make up delays and restore finances. Much security and rule of law and SRHR work starts in 2015; 2014 used for identification.

Expenditures 2014 per theme

Total expenditure Embassy €9,101,000



Expenditures 2014 per channel



Developments in Great Lakes

On track | Progress, but not on track | No progress

Development	Status
Improved collaboration between governments in the Great Lakes region	Progress, but not on track
Improved regional management of natural resources	On track
More constructive dialogue at community level (trans-boundary and in eastern DRC)	Progress, but not on track
Increased state legitimacy in eastern DRC through improved service delivery and inclusive processes	No progress
More equal access to natural resources	Progress, but not on track
More inclusive economic growth	Progress, but not on track